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Report of the Chief of the Fire Force for the Year 1907

City of Terre Haute, Indiana

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1812

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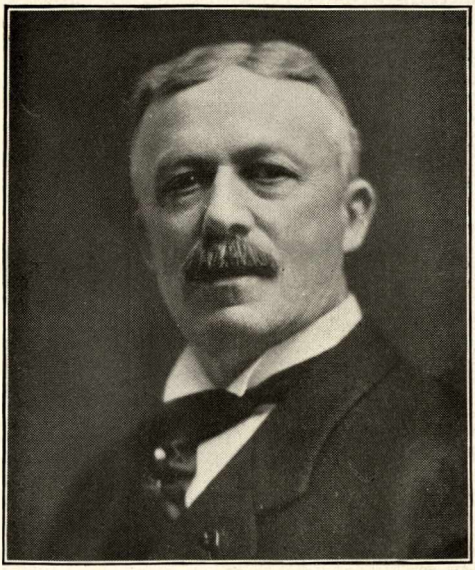
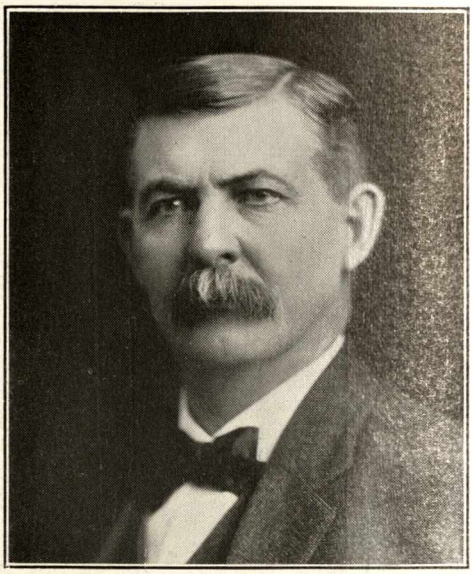
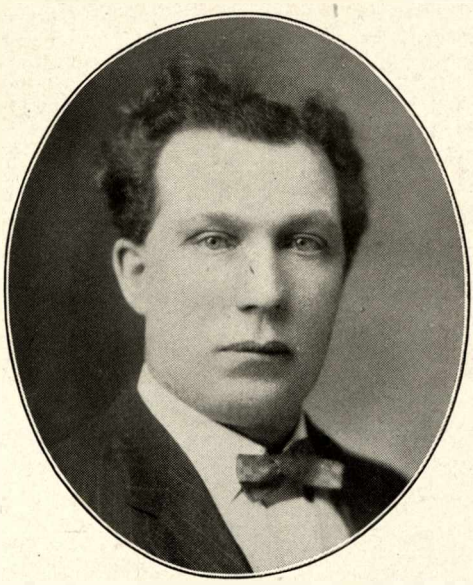
JAMES LYONS, MAYOR



JACOB C. KOLSEM, PRESIDENT

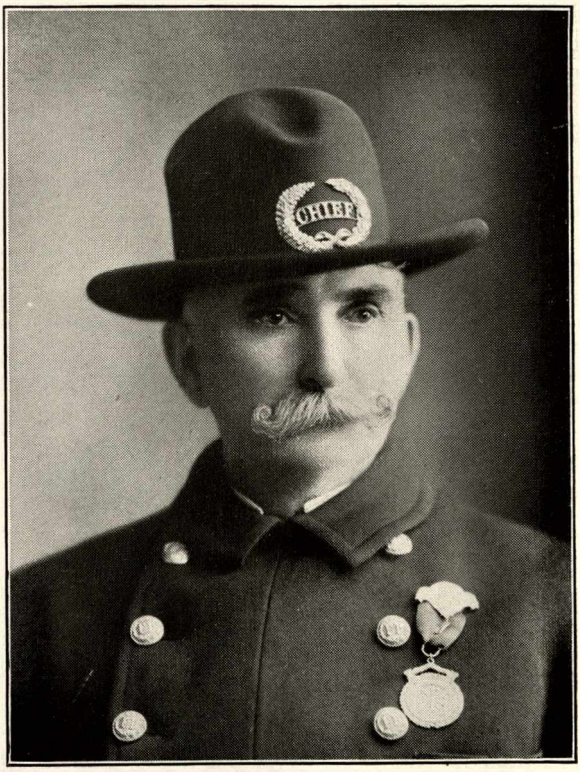


JOSEPH B. FUQUA, SECRETARY



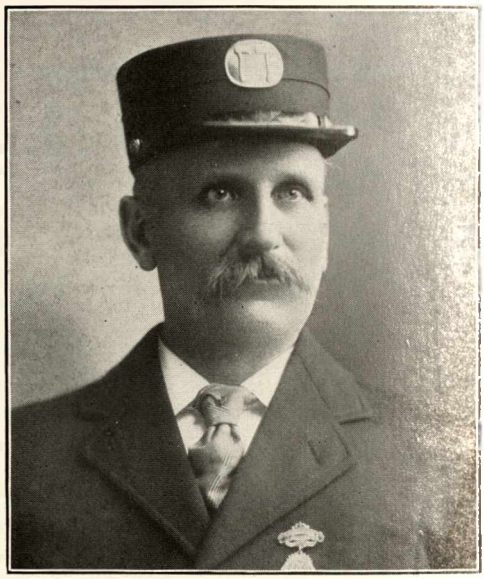
JAMES C. LE FORGE

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY



JOHN KENNEDY, CHIEF

Albert Shuster
First Assistant Chief



James Caughlin
Second Assistant Chief

Harry Bledsoe
Superintendent of Fire Alarm

Annual Report

of the

Chief of Fire Force

of the

City of Terre Haute, Indiana

With the Compliments of

JOHN KENNEDY

Chief of Fire Force

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

JOHN KENNEDY
Chief

The Moore-Langen Ptg. Co.
Terre Haute, Ind.
1908

Annual Report

of the

Chief of Fire Force

of the

City of Terre Haute, Indiana

FOR THE YEAR 1907

To the Board of Public Safety

JOHN KENNEDY
Chief

The Moore-Langen Ptg. Co.
Terre Haute, Ind.
1908

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

JACOB C. KOLSEM, President
JOSEPH B. FUQUA, Secretary
JAMES C. LE FORGE

TAYLOR J. BLEDSOE, Clerk

Report of Chief of Fire Force

FOR THE YEAR 1907

To the Honorable Mayor, James Lyons, and Members of the Board of Public Safety:

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith submit for your approval my report of the Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1907.

Total amount appropriated for the year 1907, for the Fire Force Pay Roll	$55,573.00
Claims audited	55,573.00
Total amount appropriated for the year 1907, Fire Force Acct.	$10,464.00
Extra appropriation	1,500.00
Claims audited	$11,963.94
Balance unexpended	.06
There was a balance for the equipment of the new fire house No. 10 of	$ 854.12
Of which I expended	89.84
Balance for equipment	$ 764.28
I have also turned over to the clerk of the Board of Safety	$ 132.26

During the year the Department responded to 280 alarms. This includes "Stills" by telephone, A. D. T., and own system.

Total amount loss on buildings and contents	$95,794.14
Total amount insurance carried on building and contents	296,554.88

LOSS AND INSURANCE BY MONTHS.

	Loss	Insurance
January	$ 2,415.00	$ 21,700.00
February	57,567.78	102,716.88
March	21,022.44	31,625.00
April	3,668.85	29,950.00
May	2,130.22	11,300.00
June	1,885.00	5,425.00
July	2,359.00	8,900.00
August	1,597.25	17,500.00
September	822.00	15,650.00
October	560.40	9,100.00
November	608.80	18,168.00
December	1,157.40	25,520.00
	$ 95,794.14	$297,554.88

MANUAL OF FIRE FORCE.

The Fire Department proper, at the present time consists of sixty-six members as follows:

Chief	1
Assistants	2
Supt. fire alarm telegraph	1
Assistant Supt. Fire Alarm Telegraph	1
Captains	9
Drivers	16
Hosemen	20
Laddermen	11
Engineers	3
Regular extras	2
	66

There are two names on the pay roll, not active members, who receive pay from this department, Mr. Taylor Bledsoe, clerk to the Board of Safety, and Dr. Joseph Frisz, examining physician.

APPARATUS.

The apparatus of the department consists of the following: Two new Ahrens engines, third-class, styled "Continental"; two Jeffers engines, one in service, one in reserve in first-class repair; four combination chemical and hose wagons, six hose wagons, one Babcock double tank chemical engine, one aerial extension ladder truck, two village trucks, one chief's buggy, two assistant chiefs' buggies, one superintendent of fire alarm buggy; also one spring wagon for same, one old four-wheel reel in reserve, one coal wagon, and 36 head of horses. All horses in active service.

HOSE COMPANY No. 1.

The quarters of this company are located at the junction of Third Street and Lafayette Avenue. The building is a narrow two-story brick, built in 1851 for volunteer service. Value of lot and improvements, $3,000.00 This lot extends back to Fourth Street. Value of personal property in charge of the company is as follows:

Hose wagon	$ 346.75	
Chief's horse, buggy and harness	500.00	
Two horses and harness	450.00	
Hose, 800 ft., cotton	560.00	
House furnishing	75.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
Feed	51.00	
Personal		$ 2,057.75
Lot and improvements		3,000.00
		$ 5,057.75

ENGINE COMPANY No. 2.

The quarters of this company are at the N. E. corner of Fourth and Farrington Streets. The building is a two-story brick, built in 1875 to fit all the old iron work, windows and doors of a volunteer house which was torn down on Fourth Street between Ohio and Walnut Street the same year. Value of lot improvements, $6,500.00. Value of personal property as follows:

One Ahrens (Continental) steam fire engine	$ 4,500.00	
Two horses and harness for same	400.00	
One hose wagon	368.85	
Two horses and harness for same	450.00	
Hose, 800 ft. in wagon, 350 ft. in tower	805.00	
House furnishing	90.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
Feed	103.37	
Personal		$ 6,792.22
Lot and improvements		6,500.00
		$13,292.22

ENGINE COMPANY No. 3.

This company is located at the N. E. corner of Thirteenth and Chase Streets. Building is a two-story brick, built in 1884. Is too small in almost every particular. Value of lot and improvements, $6,500.00. Value of personal property as follows:

One Jeffers steam fire engine	$ 1,500.00	
One hose wagon	400.00	
Two horses and harness for engine	450.00	
Two horses and harness for hose wagon	450.00	
Hose, 800 ft. in wagon, 400 in tower	840.00	
House furnishing	75.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
Feed	157.98	
Personal		$ 3,947.98
Lot and improvements		6,500.00
		$10,447.98

CHEMICAL COMPANY No. 1—HOSE COMPANY No. 4.

These companies are located on Third Street between Wabash Avenue and Cherry Streets. Building is a two-story, built in 1887. The hospital and old brick stable is in the rear of this building. Value of lot and improvements, $15,000.00. Value of personal property of these companies is as follows:

Chemical engine	$ 1,500.00	
Two horses and harness for same	450.00	
Hose wagon	419.00	
Two horses and harness for same	450.00	
Hose, 750 ft. in wagon, 450 ft. in tower	840.00	
House furnishing	75.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
Feed	175.24	
Personal		$ 3,984.24
Lot and improvements		15,000.00
		$18,984.24

HOSPITAL STABLE—CONTENTS.

One fire alarm wagon and harness	$ 75.00	
One old extra four-wheel reel	150.00	
One horse	80.00	
Miscellaneous	15.00	
		$ 320.00

AERIAL TRUCK COMPANY No. 1.—HOSE COMPANY No. 5.

The quarters of these two companies, which is the central station, is located on South Ninth Street between Wabash Avenue and Ohio Street. The building is a two and one-half story brick, built in 1885. The assistant chief's buggy, also the telegraph apparatus or fire alarm system is installed at this house as is also the supplies for the department. Value of lot and improvements, $17,000.00 Value of personal property as follows:

Aerial truck	$ 3,200.00	
Two horses and harness	500.00	
Hose wagon, combination chemical	1,500.00	
Two horses and harness	450.00	
Hose, 500 ft. in wagon, 250 in tower	525.00	
Two assistant chiefs' buggies and harness	400.00	
House furnishing	300.00	
Office furnishing	100.00	
Supplies on hand in store room	400.00	
Miscellaneous	90.00	
Feed	229.00	
Superintendent fire alarm buggy and harness	175.00	
Personal		$ 7,869.00
Lot and improvements		17,000.00
		$24,869.00

TRUCK COMPANY No. 3.—HOSE COMPANY No. 6.

These companies are located at the N. W. corner of Thirteenth and Crawford Streets. Building is a two-story brick, built in 1887. Value of lot and improvements is $7,000.00. Value of personal property as follows:

One village truck	$ 1,300.00	
Two horses and harness	450.00	
Hose wagon	350.00	
Two horses and harness for same	450.00	
Hose, 800 ft. in wagon	560.00	
House furnishing	75.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
Feed	118.75	
Personal		$ 3,378.75
Lot improvements		7,000.00
		$10,378.75

TRUCK COMPANY No. 2.—HOSE COMPANY No. 7.

These companies are located at Ninth Street and Eighth Avenue. The building is a two-story brick, built in 1891. Value of lot and improvements, $9,000.00. Value of personal property as follows:

One combination truck and chemical	$ 2,000.00	
Two horses and harness for same	450.00	
One hose wagon	350.00	
Two horses and harness for same	450.00	
House furnishing	100.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
Feed	135.26	
Hose, 750 ft. in wagon	525.00	
Personal		$ 4,085.26
Lot and improvements		9,000.00
		$13,085.26

ENGINE COMPANY No. 8.

This company is located at the corner of Nineteenth Street and Wabash Avenue. Building is a modern two-story brick, built in 1906. Value of lot and improvements, $12,000.00. Value of personal property as follows:

One Ahrens third-class (Continental) fire engine	$ 4,500.00	
Two horses and harness for same	500.00	
One combination chemical and hose wagon	900.00	
Two horses and harness for same	500.00	
Hose, 800 ft. in wagon, 300 ft. in tower	770.00	
House furnishing	300.00	
Miscellaneous, including furnace	575.00	
Feed	189.20	
Personal		$ 8,234.20
Lot and improvements		12,000.00
		$20,234.20

HOSE COMPANY No. 9.

This company is located at the corner of Eighth and Idaho Streets and is a new building, built in 1906. Building is a two-story brick. Value of lot and improvements, $8,253.00, including furnace. Value of personal property as follows:

One combination chemical and hose wagon	$ 900.00	
Two horses and harness	475.00	
Hose, 800 ft. in wagon, 400 ft. in tower	840.00	
House furnishing	300.00	
Miscellaneous	50.00	
Feed	119.53	
Personal		$ 2,684.53
Lot and improvement		8,253.00
		$10,937.53

FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.

The fire alarm telegraph consists of 60 miles of wire; ninety-five alarm boxes, eleven 16-inch gongs, six small spring gongs, one eight-circuit switch-board, one non-interfering eight-circuit repeater, two motor generators and 230 cells of storage battery. Estimated value, $45,000.00.

The following is the approximate value of real estate and personal property:

Hose Company No. 1	$ 5,057.75	
Engine Company No. 2	13,292.25	
Engine Company No. 3	10,447.95	
Chemical Company No. 1—Hose Company No. 4	18,984.25	
Aerial Truck Company No. 1—Hose Company No. 5	24,869.00	
Truck Company No. 3—Hose Company No. 6	10,378.75	
Truck Company No. 2—Hose Company No. 7	13,085.25	
Engine Company No. 8	20,234.20	
Hose Company No. 9	10,937.55	
Hospital Stable	320.00	
Total		$127,606.95
Hose Company No. 10, lot and improvements		11,000.00
Fire alarm telegraph		45,000.00
		$183,606.95

MEMBERS TERRE HAUTE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

JOHN KENNEDY, Chief.

ALBERT SHUSTER, Assistant Chief.
JAMES A. CAUGHLIN, Second Asst. Chief.
HARRY BLEDSOE, Supt. Fire Alarm.
CARL EVINGER, Asst. Supt. Fire Alarm.

HOSE COMPANY No. 1.

Name	Age	Rank	Nativity	Height	Weight
Filmore Smith	52	Captain	North Carolina	5 ft. 10½ in.	
Charles Holbert	39	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
Robert Smith	41	Hoseman	North Carolina	5 ft. 8 in.	
Nathan Tootle	39	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 11 in.	

ENGINE COMPANY No. 2.

John Renzenbrink	43	Captain	Indiana	5 ft. 11½ in.	
William F. Jones	59	Engineer	Ohio	5 ft. 7 in.	
Charles M. Peyton	47	Driver	Indiana	6 ft.	
William Lewis	48	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 9½ in.	
George Brandenberg	27	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 7 in.	
Claud Wilkerson	28	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 7 in.	

ENGINE COMPANY No. 3.

John Falvey	36	Captain	Indiana	6 ft. ½ in.	
John Comoford	48	Engineer	Illinois	5 ft. 8 in.	
Michael Shay	45	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 7½ in.	
Frank Eddy	39	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
George Anderson	47	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 7½ in.	
Michael Scanlon	47	Hoseman	Ireland	5 ft. 10 in.	

HOSE COMPANY No. 4.

Ralph Dinkle	25	Captain	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
Harry Finley	25	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 7½ in.	
John McKenzie	40	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 9½ in.	
Frank Easter	42	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	

HOSE COMPANY No. 5.

Name	Age	Rank	Nativity	Height	Weight
John Bayless	27	Lieutenant	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
Arthur Ballinger	37	Driver	Kentucky	5 ft. 7 in.	
George Hickman	29	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 7 in.	
Michael Hines	24	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 7¾ in.	

HOSE COMPANY No. 6.

Peter Hoofnagle	44	Captain	Ohio	5 ft. 9 in.	
William O'Connell	36	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
Cornelius Walsh	39	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 6½ in.	
Alonzo Pease	31	Hoseman	Illinois	5 ft. 8 in.	

HOSE COMPANY No. 7.

George Leisey	32	Captain	Indiana	5 ft. 9 in.	
Charles Elam	27	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 11 in.	
Robert Cowan	48	Hoseman	Scotland	5 ft. 6 in.	
Elmer Dawson	36	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 10 in.	

ENGINE COMPANY No. 8.

Charley Schulmeyer	51	Captain	Indiana	5 ft. 6 in.	
George Hoffman	36	Engineer	Indiana	5 ft. 6 in.	
Frank Heubel	34	Driver	Germany	5 ft. 8 in.	
John McConnell	55	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
William Apmann	40	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 10½ in.	
W. S. Dennis	28	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 11 in.	

HOSE COMPANY No. 9.

Oliver Strain	43	Captain	Indiana	5 ft. 8½ in.	
Wilber Howk	34	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 6½ in.	
Enos Boyd	32	Hoseman	Illinois	5 ft. 8 in.	
John McClellan	58	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 8½ in.	

CHEMICAL COMPANY No. 1.

Name	Age	Rank	Nativity	Height	Weight
Edwin Yeakle	43	Lieutenant	Indiana	5 ft. 9 in.	
William McConnell	58	Driver	Illinois	5 ft. 6 in.	
George R. Early	50	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft 7 in.	
Harry Cole	26	Hoseman	Indiana	5 ft. 7½ in.	

AERIAL TRUCK COMPANY No. 1.

Frank Miller	34	Captain	Illinois	5 ft. 11½ in.	
John Roll	35	Driver	Kansas	5 ft. 7½ in.	
Joseph Davern	45	Ladderman	Indiana	5 ft. 9 in.	
Anton Bomberg	27	Ladderman	Indiana	5 ft. 8 in.	
James Knucky	35	Ladderman	New York	5 ft. 10½ in.	

TRUCK COMPANY No. 2.

John Sohn	25	Lieutenant	New York	5 ft. 10½ in.	
Charles Gristow	51	Driver	Germany	5 ft. 6 in.	
William Shannon	45	Ladderman	New York	5 ft. 7½ in.	
Carl Allen	29	Ladderman	Indiana	5 ft. 11¾ in.	

TRUCK COMPANY No. 3.

William Morlock	56	Lieutenant	Germany	5 ft 9 in.	
William Blunk	26	Driver	Indiana	5 ft. 9½ in.	
William McNabney	26	Ladderman	Indiana	5 ft. 11 in.	
Michael Cravens	48	Ladderman	Indiana	5 ft. 6½ in.	

EXTRA MEN.

Theodore Parker	22	Extra	Indiana	5 ft. 9⅛ in.	
Charles Wilson	28	Extra	Illinois.	5 ft. 9 in.	

I will renew my recommendations of my last year's report in regard to building a new fire headquarters so as to enable me to place the new fire engines in the main or business part of the city, and also to remodeling the different fire houses.

In conclusion I wish to return my sincere thanks to His Honor, the Mayor, and to the members of the Board of Public Safety for the many courtesies extended and the able manner in which you have conducted the affairs of this department.

To the members of the department I also extend my thanks for the prompt and faithful manner in which they have responded to calls and the willingness which they have shown while laboring in behalf of those who look to them for protection, for I feel that the gratifying success of the past year is owing chiefly to their valorous and efficient work. I desire to thank the city officers and members of the Police Department for their excellent work at fires and for the kindness they have shown me at all times.

To my Assistant Chiefs and Superintendent of Fire Alarm, Messrs. Shuster, Caughlin and Bledsoe, I desire to return thanks for their every day assistance.

John Kennedy,
Chief Fire Department.

Community Affairs File

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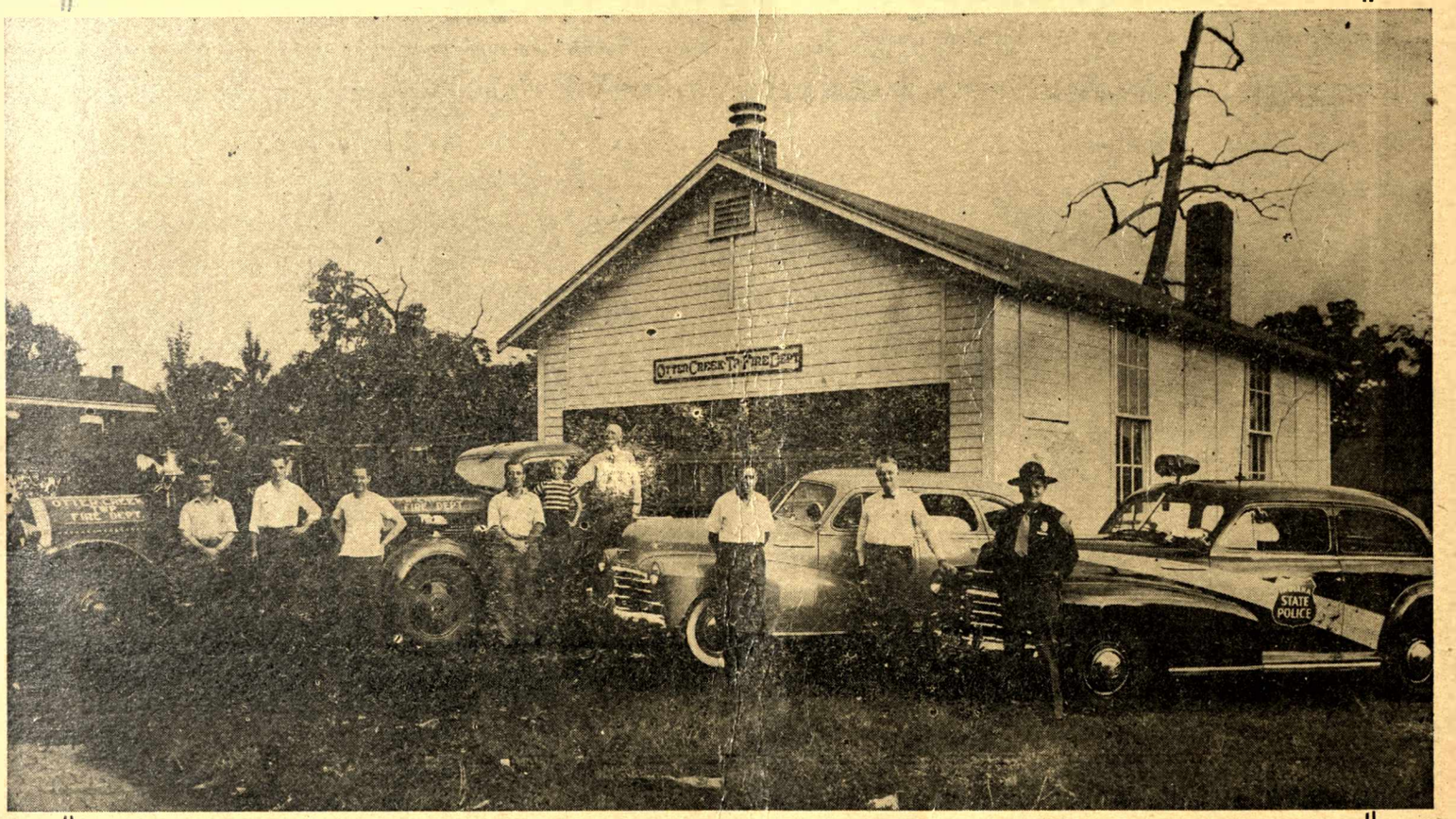

Otter Creek Volunteer Fire Department
North Terre Haute, Indiana

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1953

North Terre Haute High School Gym

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TERRE HAUTE, IND.

HISTORY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

After several years of comparative safety North Terre Haute and Otter Creek township was visited by a disastrous fire on Jan. 6, 1943, when an entire business block was consumed by fire starting in Crabb's General Store, despite the efforts of the townpeople and the Terre Haute Fire Department, with resultant loss of life of a citizen of Otter Creek Township, in addition to the property loss. The following week a meeting was called by a Mr. Boyles, who presided and asked all residents of the township to participate and make arrangement for some type of fire prevention.

This meeting was followed by another a week later when Charles R. Duffin, Jr., was elected president and C. Weir Kirk, vice-president of the Otter Creek Volunteer Firemen's Association. Mr. Duffin was called to Indianapolis and unable to conduct the meeting so it fell on Mr. Kirk to take over which he did.

While the Association was forming, Mr. Theodore Haase, then Trustee of Otter Creek Township, contacted Wilbur Brotherton, of the Terre Haute Fire Department and Civilian Defense and arranged for classes in Fire Fighting. Some 40 signed up but only nine completed the course. They were — Theodore Haase, Margaret Haase (who incidently at that time was one of a very few women in the United States who learned the art of fire fighting and practiced it), Robert Osborne, Max Johnson, Walter Reiz, Henry Bergham, William Deal, William Johnson, and C. Weir Kirk.

These persons completed the course after ..... weeks of instruction and were issued diplomas by the U. S. Civilian Defense Authorities.

Walter Reiz was elected the first Fire Chief followed by Bert Templeton, William Deal and Theodore Haase, the present Chief and for past several years.

A membership drive was innaugurated with membership costing $1.00 per member. Mr. Haase, then Trustee, arranged with the U. S. Government for an O.C.D. Trailer Pump, and Max Johnson and Weir Kirk were appointed a committee to obtain a truck and water tank, $5.00 apiece being advanced by Haase and Ed Stableton to make a deposit on same.. A Chevrolet Truck was found in a junk yard and a discarded gasoline tank obtained from an oil company and a fire wagon was built by the members and garagemen, Hart, Con, Eglehart, Johnson and Bergham. Ray Burgman and William Johnson in the meantime were active obtaining members and money. Business firms donated 25 to 50 dollars apiece and enough money, namely $410.00 was obtained to pay for the truck and tank.

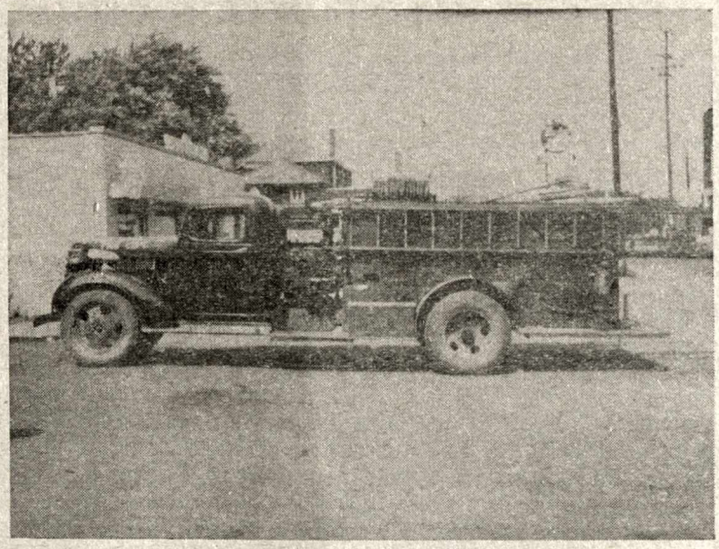
As the department grew it was the recipient of the grounds for a fire house from the K. of P. Lodge, which had burned out in the disastrous fire. Later after much discussion it was voted to turn the equipment and grounds over to the township in fee simple, which was done, meantime maintaining a membership at $1.00 per member.

On March 22, 1949, a meeting was called and conducted by C. Weir Kirk at Sand Cut and Otter Creek Volunteer Firemen's Association Station No. 2 was formed with Max Johnson being elected Assistant Chief of the Otter Creek Firemen.

The Firemen are affiliated with the Indiana Firemen's Association and in June of 1952 the women of Sand Cut under the direction of Drusilla Biggs installed a women's auxiliary to the Volunteer Fire Department.

When Station No. 2 was organized one of the Fire Trucks at North Terre Haute was sent there by Trustee Ralph Baxter. This truck broke down as did the one at North Terre Haute and the T. H. Fire Department kindly consented to stand by.

Residents around Sand Cut got busy and covered the township with a petition for new fire equipment which was presented to Township Trustee Ralph Baxter, who went to the front for the organization to comply with their wishes.



THE FIRST FIRE TRUCK

Today Otter Creek Township has two fire trucks of the most modern type and equipment in fire fighting, in addition the original truck and O.C.D. Pump as stand-by equipment with a record second to none in Rural Fire Fighting and Fire Prevention.

All citizens and organizations as well as individuals whose names are not mentioned contributed to the cause and have reason to be proud of their efforts in behalf of the Otter Creek Volunteer Firemen's Association and the results for seeing is believing.

A mutual agreement is contained with T. H. Dept. and requests from either Department is immediately answered.

The present officers of the Volunteers are:

Joseph Wellmare, President
Eddie Stableton, Vice-President
William Lawson, Secy-Treas.
Theodore Haase, Chief

THEODORE HAASE, Chief

MIDWEST GEAR & SUPPLY COMPANY INC.

627 North Twelfth Street
Terre Haute, Indiana
Telephone C-2218

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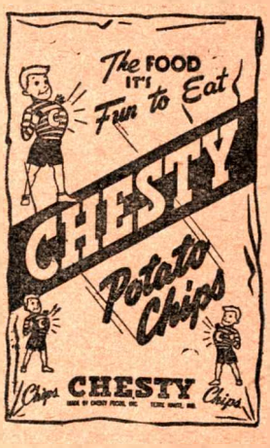

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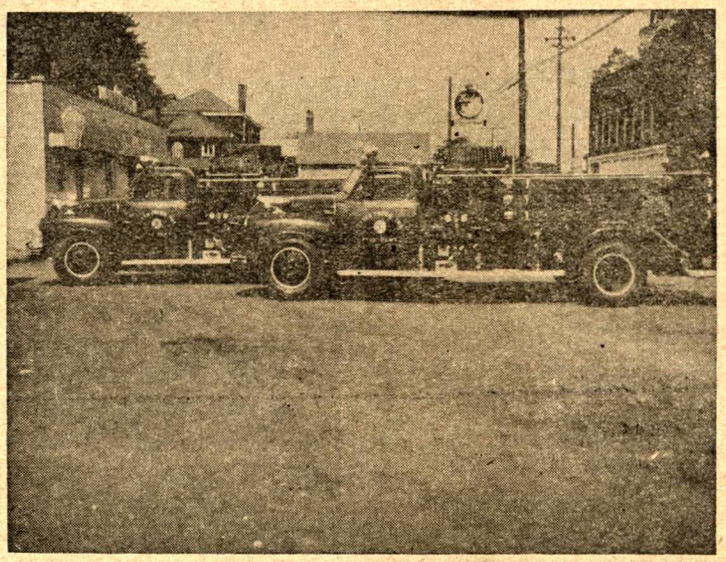

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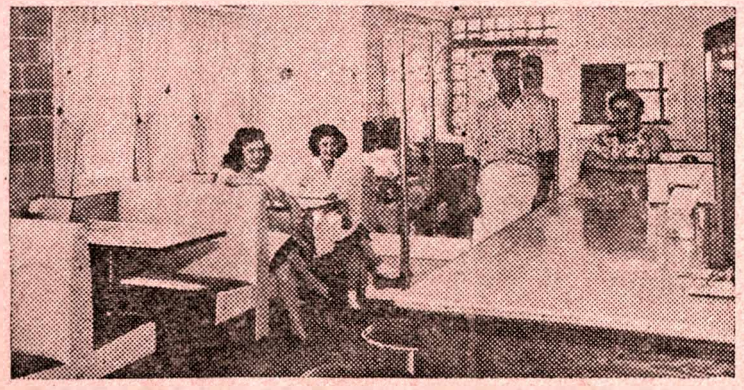

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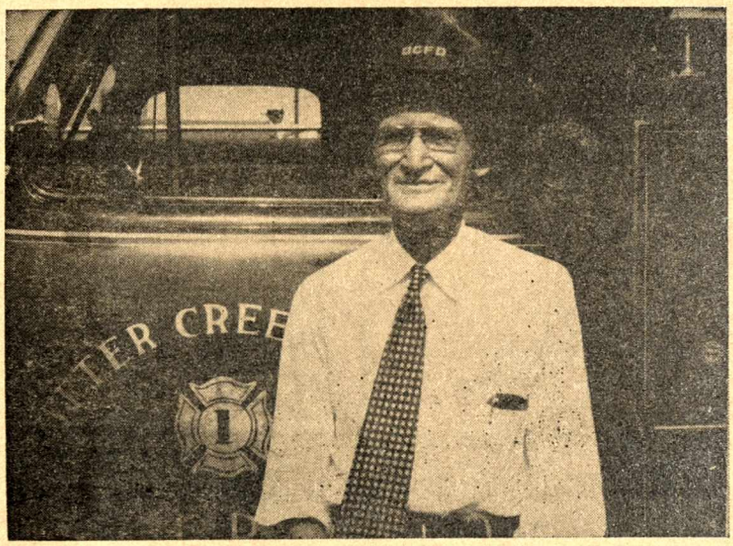

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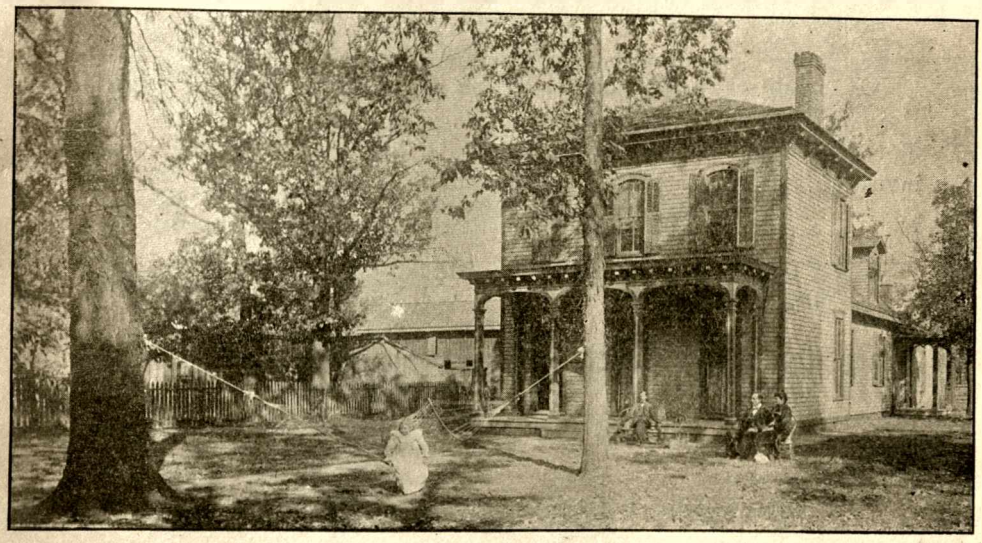

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Composed of Elegant Pullman Sleepers, Ladies' and Smoking Coaches.
Those who contemplate a trip to

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Or any Point SOUTH or SOUTHWEST Should Take the Popular

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Commercial Agent,
656 Wabash Ave.,
Terre Haute, Ind.

TERRE HAUTE HOUSE

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

Largest, most elegantly appointed and most liberally managed hotel in Indiana faultless beds; elevators, steam heat and electric light in all rooms; fire escapes; table unsurpassed; artesian water; private ice plant; the most sumptuously appointed café in Indiana. European plan, American plan, $2.50 to $5.00 per day: accommodations for 550. **CHAS. BAUR, Proprietor.**

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THE BEST LINE TO AND FROM

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Finest train in America, for New York and Boston. Wagner Sleeping Cars through without change, landing passengers into the very heart of NEW YORK CITY at GRAND CENTRAL DEPOT, avoiding the discomforts of Ferry Transfer.

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And all Kinds of Building Material.

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ED. O'BRIEN. M. O'CONNELL.

O'BRIEN & O'CONNELL,

Fine Carriages, Surreys, Phaetons,

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Central Furniture and Carpet Store,

Furniture, Stoves, Carpets, Curtain Shades, and all kinds of House Furnishing Goods,

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East Side, Between Ohio and Walnut Sts.

☞ Special attention to TROTTERS, ROADSTERS and FAMILY Horse Shoeing.

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Manufacturers of

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BEST WABASH ELM,

Corner Second St. and Vandalia R. R.

- PACKING BOXES -

MADE TO ORDER.

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LARGEST AND BEST **Clothing and Tailoring Establishment**

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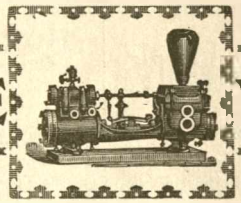
All Kinds of Uniform Suits Made to Order on Short Notice.

O'NEIL & SUTPHEN

MACHINE  WORKS

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JOS. STRONG & CO.

Wholesale Grocers

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Terre Haute Coffee and Spice Mills

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Manufacturers of **WHITE ✻ CORN ✻ GOODS**

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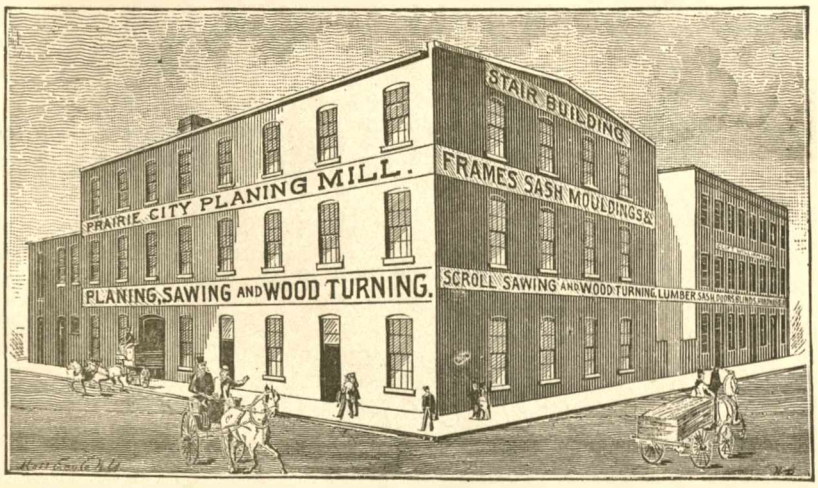
GENERAL OFFICE
TERRE HAUTE, IND.



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J. H. WILLIAMS, PRES.
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Manufacturers of Sash, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, Stairs, Balusters, Newel Posts, Lumber, Lath and Shingles.....

GENERAL CONTRACTORS.

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Best Goods

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FINKBINER & DUENWEG

Wholesale and Retail **Hardware**

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Maker of Fine Custom Made Shoes for Men.

Young gentlemen who dress their feet,
All in the latest style,
With perfect-fitting custom shoes,
Please listen for awhile.

There is a man in Terre Haute,
Who stands beyond compare,
And makes as good a custom shoe
As any man can wear.

His name is C. M. Gilmore,
With him you want to stop,
At Twenty-six South Third street
Is Gilmore's famous shop.

His prices, they are reasonable,
For he's on business bent,
And does not pay all profits to
The landlord for his rent.

The pleasant nights will soon be here,
And sweethearts ne'er excuse
The man who takes them out to walk
In a pair of Main street shoes.

A BULL'S EYE

MADE ON THE TARGET OF TRUTH WHEN WE SAY WE ARE SELLING

CARPETS
FURNITURE
AND STOVES

Cheaper Than Any Other Dealer in Terre Haute

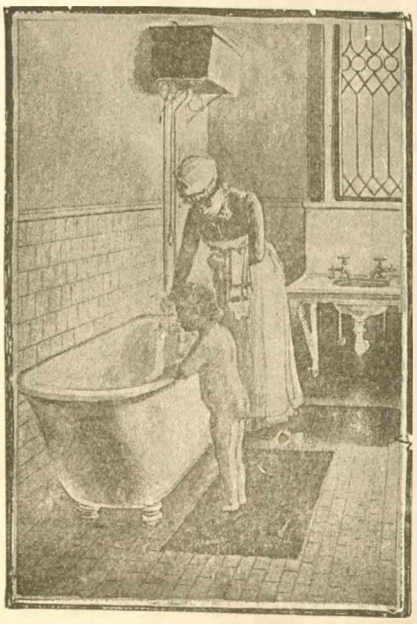
WOOD, WILLIAMS & CO.

23 and 25 (west side) S. Fourth St.

P. S. Don't take our word for it, take the experience a trip will give you.

PAYMENT PRICE EXACTLY SAME AS CASH PRICE.

D. W. WATSON'S SONS CO.



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WABASH AVENUE
TERRE HAUTE, IND.

HISTORICAL SOUVENIR

OF THE

TERRE HAUTE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

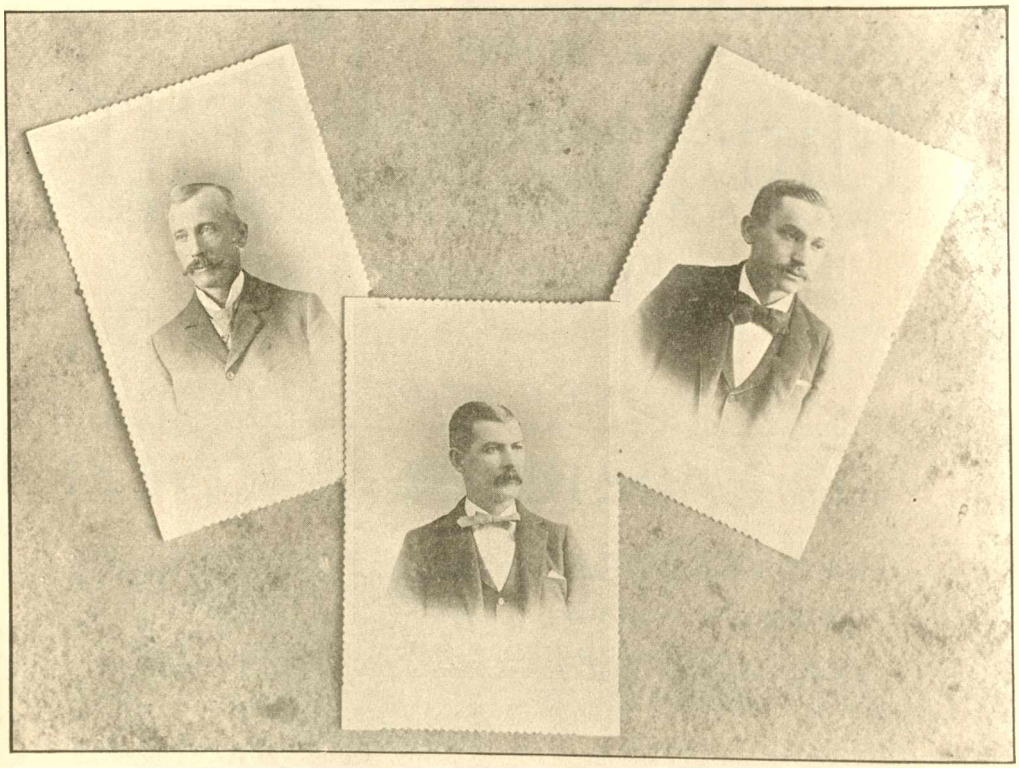
1894

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES

OF THE

FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION

TERRE HAUTE, IND.
PRESS OF G. H. HEBB.
1894.



S. L. Fenner. Joseph B. Fuqua. J. Liehr.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS.

PREFATORY.

Every cause must have its legitimate purpose.

In presenting this modest souvenir to the public, the Fire Laddies of Terre Haute wish to call attention to the fact that they, as a class, are pre-empted from the benefits of general insurance by the very nature of their dangerous avocation and, that the efforts of the Legislature in their behalf—hereby a "relief fund" was established through the taxation of insurance companies for their benefit, has been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court; hence, the men who stand bravely between our citizens and the ravages of the "fire fiend," are practically without protection for themselves and families in the event of accident.

To the worthy purpose of inaugurating a fund from which these worthy soldiers of civilization can be benefited in cases of emergency, this volume is dedicated; and, the friends of the department can have the satisfaction of knowing that whatever profit may be derivrd, goes to swell no private fortune, no selfish interest, but will form a fund from which our brave laddies can draw benefits in times of disaster and need.

TERRE HAUTE, October 30, 1894.

THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS.

Mr. Joseph B. Fuqua, Chairman, was born in Vigo county, Indiana, in 1857, came to Terre Haute in 1871. Is engaged in the grocery business here; was elected to city council in 1891; appointed on board in 1892.

Mr. S. L. Fenner is a native of Ohio, long a resident of Terre Haute, and is engaged in the hardware trade. Mr. Fenner was elected a member of the city council in 1893, and appointed on the Fire Board in 1894.

Mr. J. Liehr, the third member, composing the Board of Commissioners, is a native of Indiana, and is engaged in the tailoring business with the firm of Goodman & Hirschler of this city, Mr. Liehr was elected a member of council in 1894, and appointed to Fire Board the same year.

J. D. JONES, Chief T. H. F. D.

CHIEF J. D. JONES,

OF TERRE HAUTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

at Cincinnati, Ohio, March 11, 1846, was born, the executive head of Terre Haute's fire department. Educated in the common schools, and at an early age apprenticed to the trade of steamboat engineer, the war of the rebellion found him just emerging from boyhood, but ready to offer all at his country's call.

At seventeen years of age Chief Jones stood at the throttle of The Springfield, No. 22, of the Mississippi squadron, as engieeer, in the historic environment of Vicksburg.

What better training could chance have given to the future chief in a profession that demands cool-headed judgment and manly bravery at every turn?

The chief came to Terre Haute in 1872 and entered the fire department in 1876 as engineer of Engine Co. No. 2, and was elected chief engineer of the department in 1890; retired from the service in 1892, but was re-elected the present year, 1894.

In every day routine, Chief Jones is reputed as a thorough disciplinarian, but withal, kindly and considerate of the welfare of his men. In action, he is above all a general; conservative and cool, with his forces well in hand.

Terre Haute takes special pride in the morale of the force under its present chief; drunkenness and profanity are practically unknown, and the whole atmosphere of the department is that of metropolitan thoroughness and discipline. It seems to be the concenus of opinion that the very best man for this most important position has been secured.

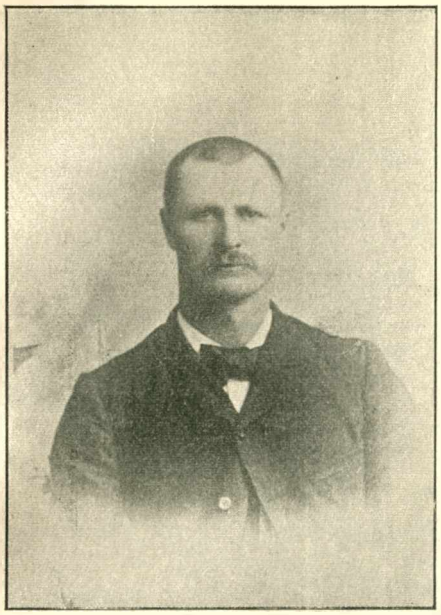
THEODORE GOODMAN,

ASSISTANT CHIEF, TERRE HAUTE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Goodman was born December 17, 1857, in Vigo county, Indiana, and came to Terre Haute with his parents in 1862; he received his education in the public schools of this city and learned his trade as a finisher here.

First entered the fire service in 1880 as hoseman of Co. No. 2; was appointed Captain of No. 4 in 1885, and Assistant Chief of Department in 1894.

Assistant Chief Goodman has charge of much of the clerical work of the department, in the line of fire loss adjustments and reports; his unfailing affability has secured him the firm friendship of all citizens with whom he has business, both in and out of the department.



J. W. HARROLD

L. C. KRETZ

J. W. HARROLD,

SUPERINTENDENT FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.

Superintendent Harrold was born at Mooresville, Ind., in 1846, and first came to Terre Haute in 1878; here he followed general merchandising until his appointment as lineman on the department in 1880, having formerly been engaged in the same capacity with the Western Union Telegraph Co.

In 1882 Mr. Harrold was appointed Assistant Superintendent; retired from the service in 1884 and returned to the fire force as Superintendent of Alarm Telegraph in 1894.

Shortly after returning to the service, on September 15, 1894, Mr. Harrold met with a serious accident by falling from a telegraph pole and breaking both his arm and leg—the latter in four places. As a result, he is still disabled and will be incapacitated for some time to come.

LAWRENCE C. KRETZ,

(ACTING) SUPERINTENDENT FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.

Mr. Kretz was born at Montezuma, Ind., in 1851. Came to Terre Haute in 1868, and followed his trade as a plasterer until entering the fire service in 1878 as pipeman on No. 5 Hose Co.

In 1880 he was appointed Superintendent of Alarm Telegraph, and later, served as Chief of Department during the unexpired term of W. K. Burnett.

In 1884 Mr. Kretz was elected chief and served one year; upon the reorganization of the department upon a metropolitan basis, he again served as Superintendent of Fire Alarm and Assistant Chief.

THE CAPTAINS OF THE TERRE HAUTE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Wm. F. Jones, Captain Hose Co. No. 2, was born in Cincinnati, O., November 2, 1848. Entered the service in 1881. Appointed Captain 1891.

Elias F. Leonard, Captain Hose Co. No. 4, was born in Terre Haute, Ind., April 3, 1858. Entered the service in 1881. Appointed Captain 1886.

John Comoford, Captain Engine Co. No. 3, was born in Shelby county, Ill., October 15, 1859. Entered the service in 1883. Appointed Captain 1887.

John Osterloo, Captain Engine Co. No. 6, was born in Buffalo, Wis., March 3, 1861. Entered the service in 1880. Appointed Captain 1890.

Albert Schuster, Captain Ærial Truck Co., was born at Crawford, O., April 28, 1864. Entered the service in 1884. Appointed Captain 1888.

Henry McCallister, Captain Hose Co. No. 1, was born at Mt. Vernon, Ind., June 1, 1856. Entered the service in 1891. Appointed Captain 1894.

John L. McConnell, Captain Hose Co. No. 7, was born in Montgomery county, Ill., October 29, 1852. Entered the service in 1889. Appointed Captain 1894.

John H. Lawler, Captain No. 2 Truck, was born in Ross county, O., October 5, 1859. Entered the service in 1890. Appointed Captain 1894.

James P. Burke, Captain Chemical Engine No. 1, was born in Terre Haute, Ind., March, 1861. Entered the service in 1883. Appointed Captain 1892.

John Falvey, Captain Hose Co. No. 5, was born in Terre Haute, Ind., January 8, 1871. Entered the service in 1892. Appointed Captain 1893.

JAMES BURKE
JOHN COMOFORD
A. SHUSTER

JOHN OSTERLOO
JOHN M'CONNELL
WILLIAM F. JONES

JOHN FALVEY
ELIAS LEONARD
JOHN LAWLER

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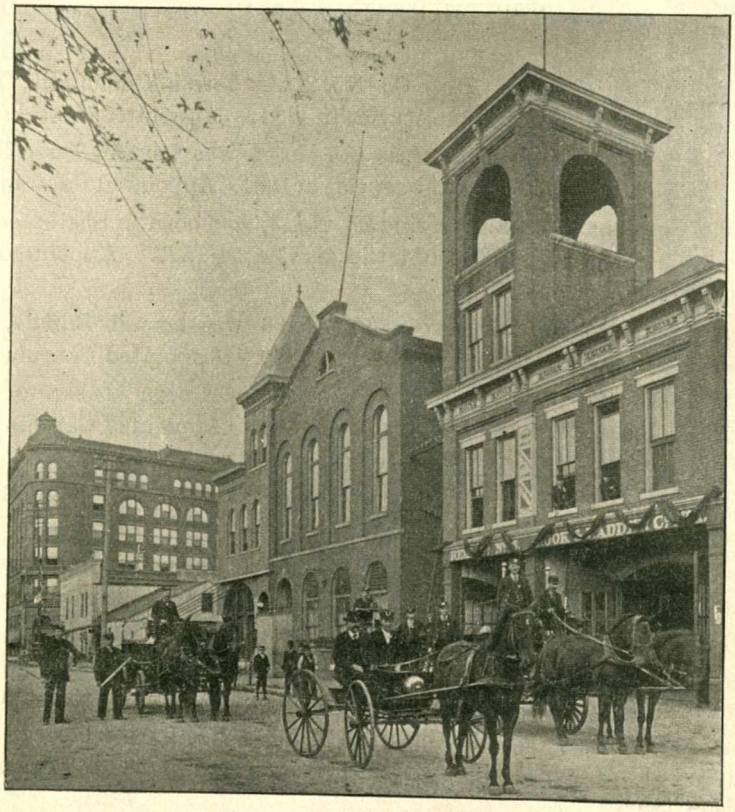


HEADQUARTERS T. H. F. D.

ROSTER.

Terre Haute Fire Department 1894.

FULL PAID--FIFTY MEMBERS.

J. D. JONES, Chief Engineer.

THEODORE GOODMAN, Assistant Chief Engineer.

J. W. HARROLD, Superintendent of Fire Alarm Telegraph.

L. C. KRETZ, Acting Superintendent of Fire Alarm.

ÆRIAL TRUCK CO. NO. 1.—Consists of the following members: Albert Shuster, Captain; Frank McCormick, Driver; Wm. Appman, Ladderman; Jas. Knuckey, Ladderman.

TRUCK CO. NO. 2.—John Lawler, Captain; John Reder, Driver; Oliver Strain, Stearsman; Dan'l Weldele, Ladderman.

CHEMICAL CO. NO. 1.—James P. Burke, Captain; Wm. McConnell, Driver; Geo. Early, Hoseman.

HOSE CO. NO. 1.—Henry McAllister, Captain; Albert Howell, Driver; Wm. Anderson, Pipeman; Henry Howard, Hoseman.

HOSE CO. NO. 2.—Wm. F. Jones, Captain; Chas. Peyton, Driver; John McClelan, Pipeman; Frank Easter, Hoseman.

ENGINE CO. NO. 3.—John Camoford, Captain and Engineer; Mike Shay, Driver of Engine; Thos. Cravens, Driver of Hose Wagon; Mike Scanlon, Pipeman; Peter Hoofnagle, Hoseman; Geo. Anderson, Hoseman.

HOSE CO. NO 4.—Elias O Leonard, Captain; Dwight Christy, Driver; Wm. A. Lewis, Pipeman; Cornelius Walsh, Hoseman.

HOSE CO. NO. 5.—John Falvey, Captain; James Caughlin, Driver; Walter J. Bell, Pipeman; Joseph Shuster Hoseman.

ENGINE CO. NO. 6.—John Osterloo, Captain and Engineer; Wm. Shannon, Engine Driver; Wm. Morelock, Wagon Driver; John Renzenbrink, Pipeman; Henry Cravens, Hoseman; Patrick Scanlon, Hoseman.

HOSE CO. NO. 7.—John McConnell, Captain; John McKinzie, Driver; Robert Cowen, Pipeman; John McMahan, Hoseman.

EXTRA MEN.—Charles Gristow and Charles Schulmeyer.

TOWER WATCHMAN,—James Wheatfill.

The apparatus of the Fire Department consists of—

2 Steamers, Jeffers, made at Pautucket, R. I.
1 Babcock Æriel Truck.
1 Babcock Plain Truck.
1 Double Tank No. 1 Babcock Chemical Engine.
5 Hose Wagons.
1 Hose Reel.
1 Babcock Hose Carriage.
2 Chief's Buggies.
28 Horses.
8,000 Feet of Hose.

HOSE COMPANY No. 1.

VOLUNTEER DAYS.

Many a staid and dignified gray-head of the present day will instinctively smile and chuckle softly in memory of the gay and lusty days, now long gone by, when he "ran with the machine" and fought valiantly in the interest of supremacy for his particular company.

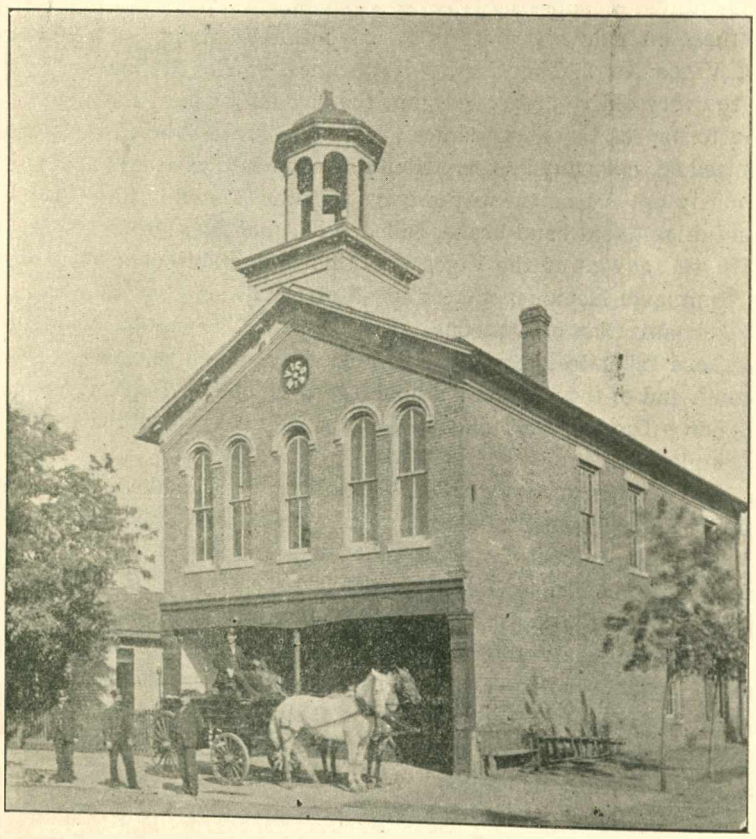
In these later days, it matters little whether he struggled in the interest of Vigos No. 2, The Northern Liberties, or The Niagaras, the time was, to every old volunteer fireman, the hey-day of his existence.

The former of these companies (Vigos No. 2) was the first regularly organized fire company in Terre Haute; it came into existence about 1855. Previously nothing in the way of a fire machine existed in town except an old and dilapidated hand-brake, called "The Old Hoosier."

With the advent of the Vigos and their ownership of a then, up-to-date Hunniman Machine, came a spirit of emulation that soon resulted in the organization of a second company with the euphoneous title of "Northern Liberties," composed principally of Alton railroad men from the north end of town. They rehabilitated "The Old Hoosier," rechristened her "The Deluge," and enthusiastically demanded a share of the public's plaudits.

In 1857, a third company called "The Niagaras," made their bow and entered the lists for honors; this company, like the "Northern Liberties," was principally composed of railroad men belonging to the Indianapolis and also from the Evansville roads. With these three organizations in active operation, the embyro city was well supplied with active fire fighters; in fact, the spirit of emulation was so great between them, and the desire to get "first water," so intense, that many suspicious blazes occurred that would invariably find one or other of the companies all ready to make a quick run to add new laurels for their beloved machine. It came to be generally understood that old canal boats, isolated shanties, etc., stood a poor show for existence, provided they were favorably located for making a run.

The great interest taken by all classes of citizens in the organizations naturally resulted in procuring good equipments. First, as before stated, the Vigos possessed a Hunniman engine, then followed the Northern Liberties with a brand new Jeffers hand engine, purchased mostly by public subscriptions; then followed the Niagaras with a powerful Button machine, duplicated shortly by the Vigos who began to feel that they, the original company, were getting behind the times. The Niagaras' first engine had been a cumbersome double deck, end machine, purchased in Cincinnati in 1857, and much too heavy for quick progress through the deep sand of which most of the streets was composed. Many a gibe



HOSE COMPANY No. 2.

and laugh did the Niagaras have to take when stuck on their way to fires while their more lightly equipped competitors ran quickly past. The Niagaras continued an active element in the fire force until they disbanded in 1868. 'Squire Alex. Thomas being the last president of the company.

In 1859, the city council first granted a regular amount to assist the expenses of the different companies; in that year $160 was voted to each engine company, and $120 to the Hook and Ladder Co. lately formed.

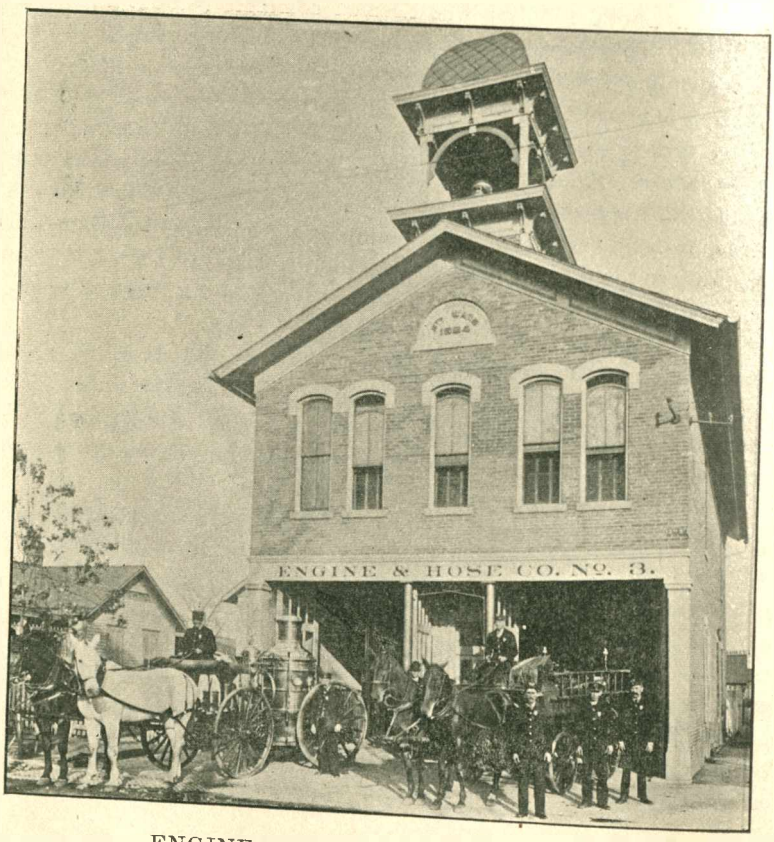
Surrounding this period was the halcyon days of the volunteer fire service. No public function was deemed complete without a parade of its members; their scarlet shirts embelished every fair ground and their annual tournaments formed the social climax of each years' glory.

It is not our province to relate the many stirring contests bravely fought, or schedule the trophies proudly won;—as the silver trumpet now at headquarters. Old members will recall with pleasure that historic contest at the Fair Grounds between the Vigos, Northern Liberties and Niagaras, won by the Vigos, who triumphantly bore their captain John, Bryan, back to town on their shoulders and rounded out the days victory with a ball—the memory of which will still tickle the toes of many a sedate grandfather.

Before leaving the delightful subject of those old days, we should make passing mention of The Washingtons, organized in 1859, but failing to secure an engine, disbanded the same year. Also, the Eagles, No. 4, a company of very young men whose frolicsome aim it was to beat the runs of older companies rather than to fight fires.

Of the old machines, some are broken up and all scattered. The old Hunniman engine of the Vigos, No. 2, is at Jasper, Ind., still in service. An effort is now being made by Capt. John Bell and others, to secure its return here as a relic of the olden times.

The Button machine of the Northern Liberties was purchased by Crawfordsville, Ind., and is supposedly still there, while the "Kate Tousey" (named in honor of a daughter of Ralph Tousey) hose machine of long and faithful service with the Vigos, was smashed and dismantled years ago, about 1876.



ENGINE AND HOSE COMPANY No. 3.

THE TERRE HAUTE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

BY CHIEF J. D. JONES.

Engine Co. No. 1 was organized upon the arrival of steamer Albert Lange, No. 1, as a paid department. The company was at first and is still located at Lafayette and Linton streets. Sid. Temple was the first engineer and John A. Bryan, chief. Company No. 2 was organized in 1868 as a paid force at Fourth and Walnut, in the old market house, with Ben West as engineer and Capt. John D. Bell as chief. There were four companies. Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5, hose companies, and hook and ladder, No. 1 (the old village truck with one horse). The hose companies were equipped with the old-styled reels.

Wm. Van Brunt was elected chief May, 1872. The Gamewell system of fire alarm was put in in 1873.

Stephen Mahoney was elected chief May, 1874, serving two years, and giving way to Henry Ramme, May, 1876.

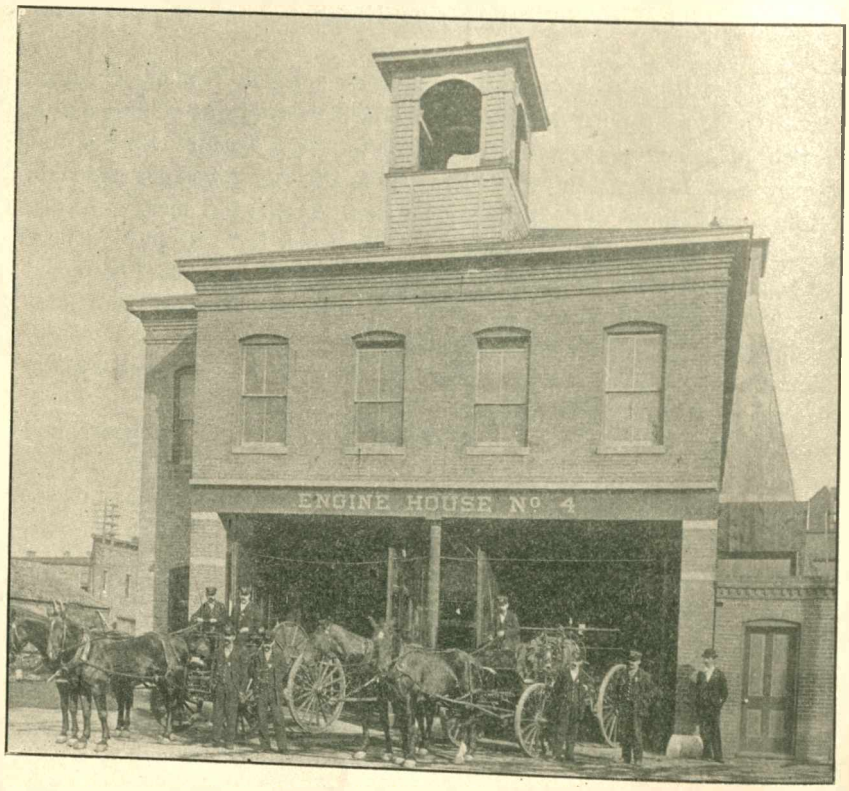
Henry Stakeman was superintendent of fire alarm and foreman of the Hook and Ladder Co. There were twenty-four runs during that year, none of them amounting to very much.

In June, 1875, Engine and Hose Co., No. 2, moved in the house built for them at Fourth and Farrington streets. Peter Allen, engineer; Wm. Welch, driver of engine; Jabez Smith, Jr., driver of reel; with four outside or minute men.

Joseph H. Schell was elected chief, May, 1877, to succeed Henry Ramme. The present Truck, No. 2, was stationed in No. 7 house which was purchased by Chief Schell in 1878.

Mr. Schell was succeeded by V. G. Dickhout, May, 1879, who served until September, 1880, and was succeeded by W. K. Burnett, who served until November, 1881, and was succeeded by L. C. Kretz, at that time superintendent of fire alarm, who served as chief until May, 1882. This period was memorable on account of the distillery explosion—killing two men.

John Kennedy was elected chief in 1882 and served until February, 1883, and was succeeded by V. G. Dickhout, who filled out the unexpired term of Kennedy. Dickhout was succeeded by L. C. Kretz, who served until May, 1885, when the present non-partisan, full paid department



HOSE CO. No. 4 and CHEMICAL ENGINE No. 1.

was organized and proved a radical improvement over the old system.

In 1879 Vigo engine was moved to Ninth and Cherry, in the building now owned and occupied by Jehu Lewis as a livery stable. The company remained there until September, 1884, when they moved in the new house built at the corner of Thirteenth and Chase streets, for Engine and Hose Co. No. 3; this house was constructed during the administration of L. C. Kretz. The chief losses of that year (1884) was the old frame distillery, also the Clift & Williams planing mill.

L. C. Kretz was succeeded by Joseph H. Schell in May, 1885. The present headquarters were built under Chief Schell in 1886. The disastrous distillery explosion occurred that year (January 15th), killing five men: Kyal Ethington, F. Buckingham, George Otterman, Frank McNelis and M. Ahrien. Exactly one year from this date, on January 15, 1887, the new distillery burned, at which time Jas. Nugent lost his life.

Chief Schell was succeeded by Martin Hunter in May, 1887; this was a disastrous year for fires; the Car Works were completely destroyed, also the Normal School, which was a total loss, with no insurance.

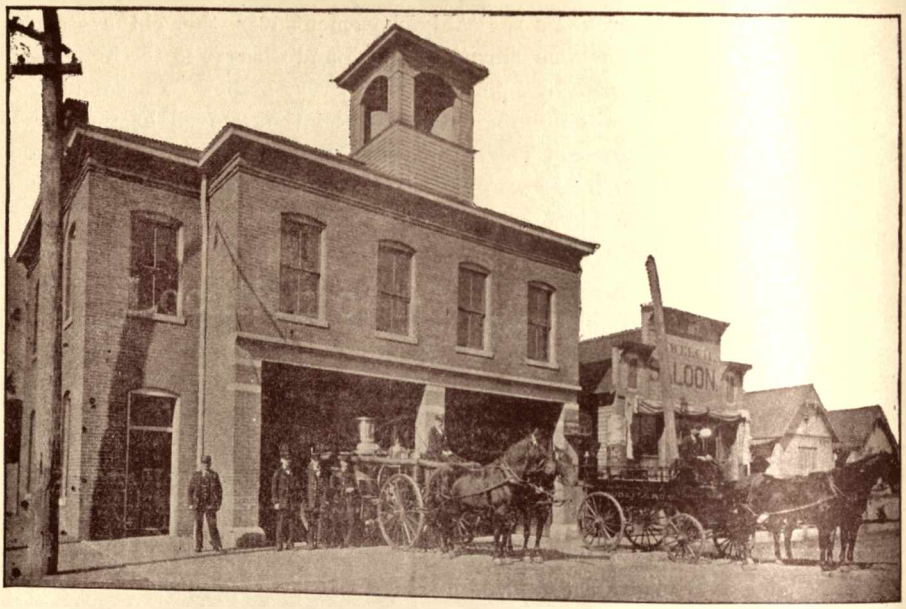
Hose Co. No. 6. was organized in March, 1888, with Thos. Welch, as foreman; Wm. Shannon, engineer; S. Slavins, Patrick Lahey, John Roberts and Chas. Appman. No. 4's new house was completed May 2d, of that year and the company moved out of the old stable in the rear into their new quarters. The chemical engine was bought in November, 1887, and placed in No. 4's house with John Comoford, as foreman, Wm. McConnell and Frank Westfall. She is one of the most valuable pieces of apparatus in the service; being a No. 1 double tank Babcock machine.

John Kennedy succeeded Martin Hunter as chief, May 8, 1890. In April, of that year, the ærial truck was purchased at a cost of $3,400 by Mr. Samuel Hybarger, Chairman of Fire Committee.

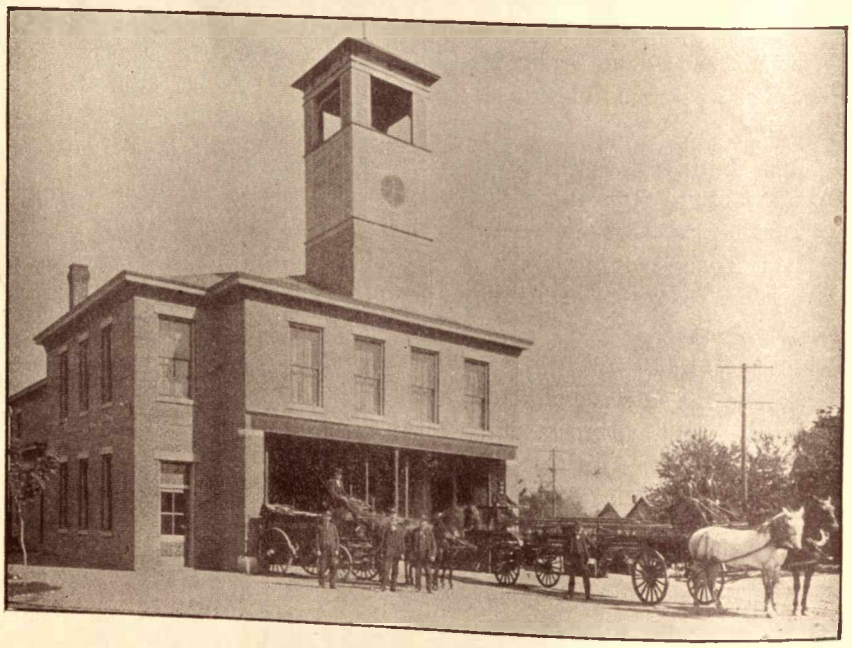
John Kennedy was succeeded by J. D. Jones, May 16, 1890. Several large fires occurred during the next two years, among them the Nichols cooper shop, Pixley's clothing store, the Goodman & Hirschler clothing manufactory and Newhart's hominy mill.

No. 7's house was built and finished September 1, 1891. No. 7 was organized September 10, 1891, with Hose Co. No. 7 and Hook and Ladder Co. No. 2. Theodore Goodman, the present assistant chief, was foreman; Jas. Caughlin, John Kelley and John McConnell, and as members of the hose company, John Reder, John Lawler, Fred Davis, Wm. Armstrong. At this time the colored cempany was organized in old Hose Co. No. 1. Henry McAlister, as foreman; Albert Howell, Wm. Anderson and L. D. Scott (since deceased), constituted this company.

J. D. Jones was succeeded by John Kennedy, May 18, 1892. This year several large fires occurred; the Herman Carriage Works, the Terre Haute Car and Manufacturing Co., Goetz's furniture store, the seminary



ENGINE COMPANY No. 6.



HOSE CO. No. 7. TRUCK No. 2.

of St. Ann's Catholic Church, Clift & Williams' Planing Mills and the Hulman stables.

John Kennedy was succeeded by J. D. Jones, May 8, 1894. On account of complications in the State law. Chief Kennedy refused to deliver up the office until September 3, 1894. In the month of October, during the present year, there were twenty-five fires more than ever before in the same length of time in the history of Terre Haute. A great many of the fires were of incendiary origin, started in stables and outbuildings But the splendidly equipped department and efficient work of the members prevented any large conflagrations.

It is really unncessary to speak of the efficiency of the Terre Haute Fire Department, as it is a well-known fact that it ranks second to none in the Western country. It is made up of men who have the interests of the people at heart, and who are ever ready to respond to the call of duty, day or night and in all kinds of weather. Their moral character is above reproach, their bearing gentlemanly. A call finds them ever ready and willing to further the interests of the people at all times.

Location of Fire Alarm Boxes

2 Opera House, Cor. 4th and Main.
7 Washington Ave. and 2d St.
8 9th and Linden.
12 17th and Washington Ave.
13 Cor. Locust and Lafayette Ave.
14 19th and Sycamore
15 15th and 2d Ave.
16 13th and Sycamore.
17 No. 4 Hose House.
18 1st and Mulberry.
21 No. 2 Hose House.
23 6½ and College.
24 6th and Washington Ave.
25 Headquarters, 9th bet. Main and Ohio.
26 1st and Wilson.
27 1st and Prairieton Road.
28 7th and Deming.
29 5th and Swan.
31 4th and Eagle.
32 7th and Lafayette.
33 5th and Cherry.
34 No. 3 Engine House.
35 15th and Chestnut.
36 10th and Chestnut.
37 No. 7 Hose House.
38 9th and Locust.
39 13th and 7th Ave.
41 14th and Poplar.
42 15th and Liberty Ave.
43 2d and Locust.
44 7th and Oak.
45 T. H. Car and Mfg. Works.
46 No. 6 Engine House.
47 4th and 3d Ave.
51 7th and Eagle.
52 7th and I. & St. L. R. R.
53 8th and Sycamore.
54 6th and Sycamore.
55 17th and Wabash Ave.
56 15th and Orchard.
61 6th, bet. Main and Ohio.
62 Poplar bet. 1st and 2d.
63 9½ and Poplar.
64 1st and Main.
65 7th and Main.
67 4th and Walnut.
68 8th and Walnut.
69 4th and Crawford.
71 10th and Main.
72 13th and Main.
73 12th and Ohio.
74 10th and Spruce.
75 16th and Chase.
81 3d and Oak.
82 9th and College.
83 7th and Scott.
84 5th and Hancock.
85 Normal School Building.
91 9th and Mulberry.
92 13th and Plum.
93 7th and Hulman.
124 13½ and Franklin Ave.
125 No. 1 Hose House.
126 16th and Park.

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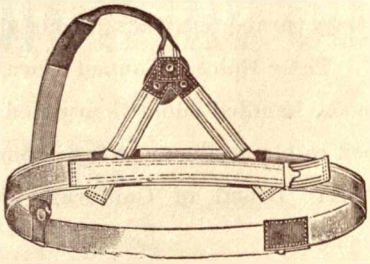

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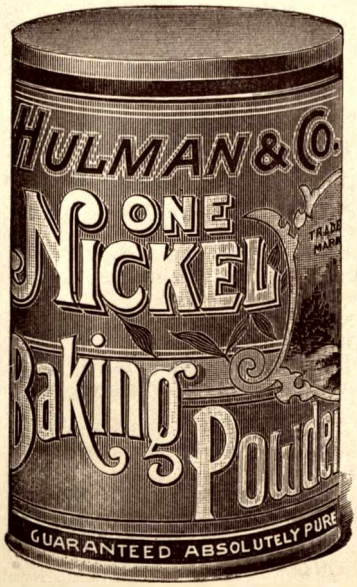

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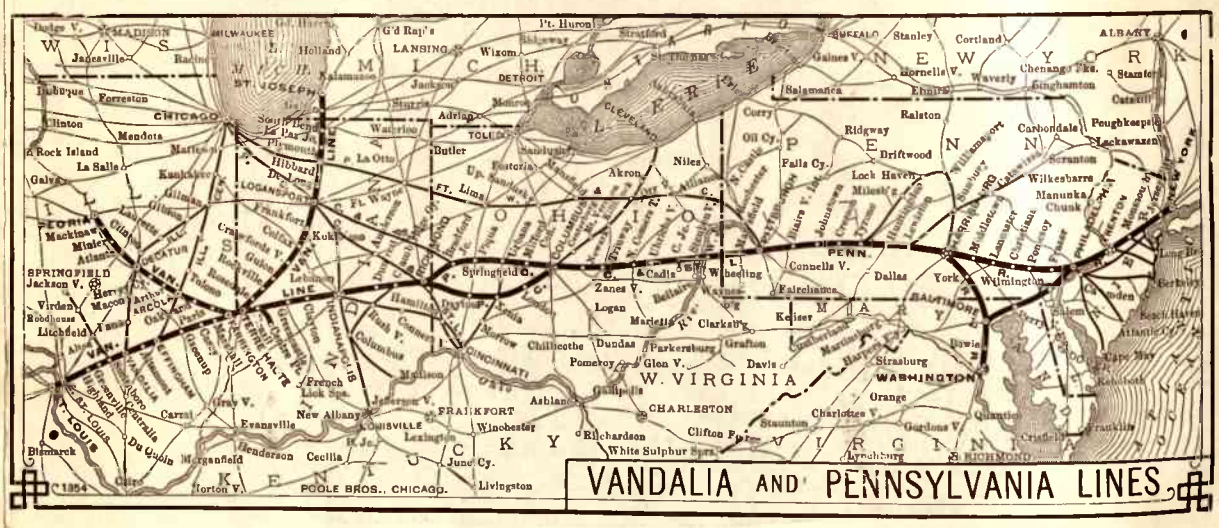

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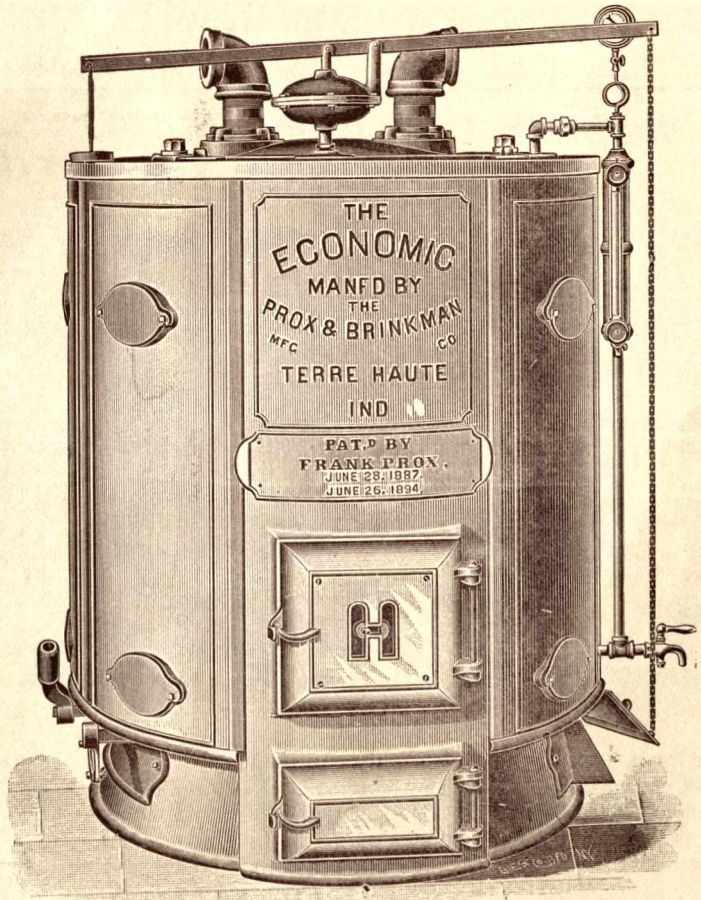

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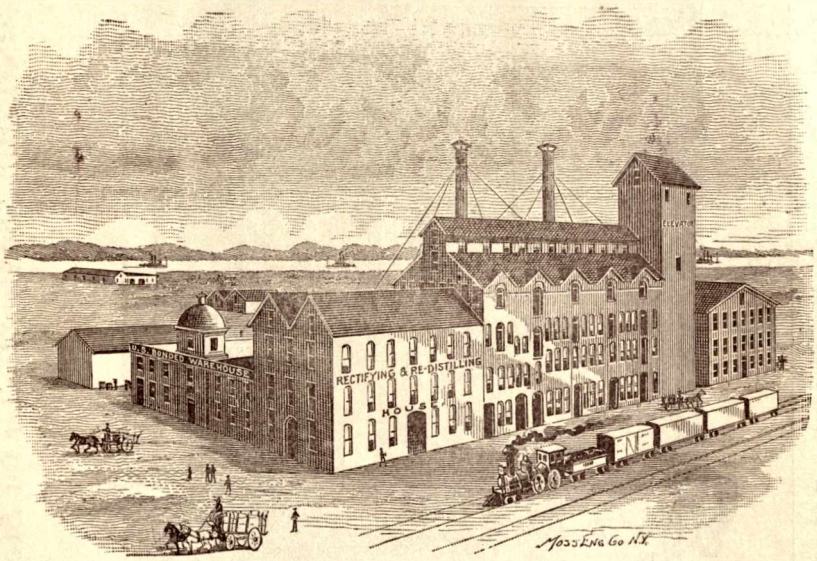

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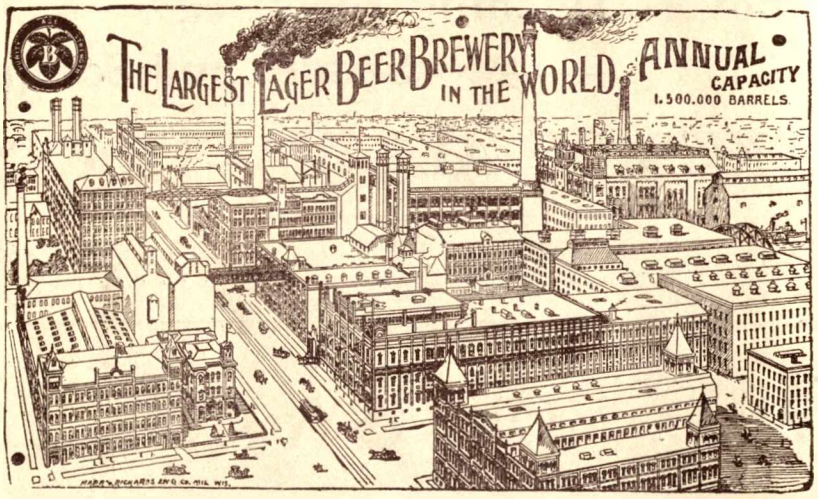

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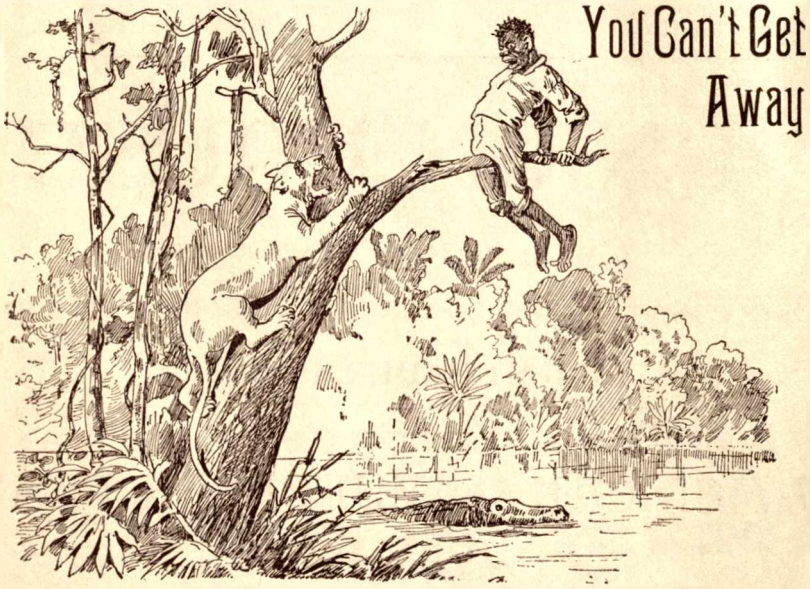

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